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SECURITY INFORMATION

SPECIAL EVALUATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Serial No. 01

17 February 1953

Memorandum for the Director of Central Intelligence

Subject : Request for Special Intelligence Information

Reference: NSC 140

1. It is my understanding that CIA is now preparing an estimate of Soviet capabilities for attack on the US through mid-1955 (SE-36) for the use of this Subcommittee.
2. The Special Evaluation Subcommittee has completed a preliminary survey of information needed to complete its mission and requests that the subjects noted in Appendix A be included in SE-36.
3. The Subcommittee hopes that the subjects noted will include all which it will require on a coordinated basis, but recognizes that further intelligence may be required as the work of the Subcommittee proceeds.

/s/

I. H. EDWARDS
Lt General, USAF
Chairman

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Assumptions:

1. The USSR has decided to attack the US, recognizing that such an attack would precipitate a general war with the US.

2. The USSR has concluded that circumstances are such that a general war with the US would be an acceptable method of contributing to its long-range objective of a Communist world dominated by Moscow.

Special Information Needed:

1. Soviet Mass Destruction Weapons (Atomic, Thermonuclear, BW agents, CW agents).

Types, stockpiles, characteristics.

2. Soviet gross capabilities for delivery of conventional and mass-destruction weapons through the air.

Numbers, types, characteristics of delivery agents.

Airfields and bases.

Operational capabilities.

3. Soviet gross capabilities for attacking the US with conventional naval and airborne forces.

4. Soviet gross capabilities for attacking the US by clandestine means.

5. Effect of Soviet capabilities, vulnerabilities, psychological reactions, etc., upon Soviet war objectives and upon the allocation of its military resources in the assumed situation.

Appendix A to SES Serial 01 dated 17 February 1953.

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